

if he did not make five prenatal examinations (when patients did not come to him in ample time) suffer no financial deduction from the \$50.00 allocation.

Here again the Federal Children's Bureau said, "No."

Note.—Negotiations concerning this request are still being carried on.

3. In the original E.M.I.C. plan, in those cases where, in smaller communities, the attending physician must rely on his own laboratory equipment, such as x-ray, or on his own surgical skill to do, say, a Caesarean section, there would have been no extra compensation over the standard \$50.00 fee, for services so rendered by him.

However, if such attending physician had called in some other physician or specialist for such service, the extra fee would have been allowed. This did not seem fair.

The California Committee suggested, under such conditions, that an attending physician to the pregnant woman, who gave such extra service, be allowed the additional fee that would be granted to a consultant.

Here also, the Federal Children's Bureau could not see eye to eye with the California Committee, and the suggestion was disapproved.

4. The E.M.I.C. plan stipulated qualifications of specialists, emphasizing certification from a national specialty board, or eligibility to take the examinations of such a board.

The California Committee called attention to the fact that, in many rural and smaller communities, such certificated specialists are not available and made the suggestion, when such certificated consultants were not to be had, then the attending physician should be permitted to call in a local colleague, who, in private practice would have been asked in consultation, in a similar, complicated case.

To this suggestion, the Federal Children's Bureau gave approval.

5. The earlier E.M.I.C. contracts provided that when a specialist obstetrician did no pediatric work, he might call in a pediatrician to look after the infant, the pediatrician receiving pay for such service.

However, an attending physician who was giving care to the mother, and who did not desire to be responsible for the care of the infant, was not given the same privilege of calling in a pediatrician.

The California Committee recommended that the rule should be modified to permit the attending physician to have the privileges under such circumstances, similar to those given to a specialist obstetrician.

This recommendation was approved by the Children's Bureau.

6. In conjunction with the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health of the California State Board of Public Health, the California Committee submitted a simpler form of contract, in which the dangerous legal elements concerning "complete"

and "required" care were eliminated. (For discussion of this phase, brought out by Dr. William Benbow Thompson of Los Angeles, see the legal opinions printed in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, for August, on pages 114-116).

The Federal Children's Bureau agreed to delete the dangerous terms; and accepted, in part, a simpler form of contract submitted by the C.M.A. Committee.

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State Board of Public Health and California Committee on Maternity-Pediatric Care Have Been Working in Coöperation.—These explanatory comments are here given, to supplement the information which appears in this issue, on pages 160-161. Also, so that members of the C.M.A. may know that the C.M.A. Committee on Maternity-Pediatric Care has been making consistent efforts to bring about an improvement in the E.M.I.C. program of the Federal Children's Bureau.

The C.M.A. Committee will welcome further suggestions from the County Society Committees now being appointed.

Physicians should keep in mind that the Federal Children's Bureau must work through a constituted State agency, as regards disbursements of Federal monies; and that the California State Board of Public Health, in turn, must pass on the Federal set-up, as submitted, to the local health officials for further coöperation.

Also, that from the beginning, the California Bureau of Maternal and Child Health has given full coöperation to the C.M.A. Committee on Maternity-Pediatric Care, in efforts to bring about improvements in the E.M.I.C. plan drafted and promulgated by the Federal Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor.

CALIFORNIA PHYSICIANS' SERVICE REPAYS THE LOAN OF \$35,000 FROM C.M.A.

Continued Progress of C.P.S.—Recent issues of the OFFICIAL JOURNAL have carried articles on the work of California Physicians' Service, the statewide medical service organization brought into being by the California Medical Association. A report on the "First Five Years of C.P.S." appeared in the April number, on page 191; and in the June issue, on pages 329-333, were given the minutes of the Los Angeles meeting, whereby, under the new arrangement, the members of the C.M.A. House of Delegates become a majority group of the Administrative Members of California Physicians' Service.

In the August issue, on page 51, attention was called to the present unit value of \$2.25, and the installation of a system that will make for prompt payment of statements rendered by physicians, for their professional services. Also, to the important fact that C.P.S., which did a gross business of \$1,340,315.00 last year, is now a business organization possessing assets sufficient to cover all liabilities.

Members of the California Medical Association may take pride in the knowledge that their statewide plan for medical service, as exemplified in California Physicians' Service, has successfully passed through its infancy days; and though still in what may be called a childhood period, is now an institution that gives every promise of continued growth and successful development.

It is likewise gratifying to record, at this time, that a loan originally advanced to C.P.S. by the California Medical Association, has been fully repaid through a check for \$35,000.00, received on August 23, 1944. A photograph has been made of the check, and a reproduction appears in this issue on page 169.

With generous coöperation by all members of the California Medical Association and associated groups, it should be possible to solve most of the medical service and hospitalization problems still existing. Once that is done, California Physicians' Service will be in position to move forward at an increased pace. That day, for the future good of the medical profession and the health of the people, cannot come too soon. As stated, it will come to pass, if every C.M.A. member will give wholehearted support.

TUBERCULOSIS SUPPLEMENT IN AUGUST C. AND W. M.

Many Articles of Interest and Value.—In CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE's issue of July, 1943, on pages 25-70, and this year in the August number, on pages 75-109, appeared some 50 articles or digests on pertinent problems and recent studies in tuberculosis. The two tuberculosis supplements presented information worthy of, at least, a casual inspection. While it is true that the "Battle Against the Great White Plague" reveals much progress, the fight has not been won, by any means; for, as Osler stated years ago, "Tuberculosis is a social problem with a medical aspect." In other words, since tuberculosis is a disease having causative elements closely associated with poverty, malnutrition, over-work, improper housing, as well as factors such as faulty habits, poor heredity and previous diseases, the struggle to eliminate the disease must go on until the accessory social welfare elements are gotten under control. Nevertheless, since it is an infectious disease, and of such, one of the most widespread in relation both to morbidity and mortality, it will continue to receive the earnest study not only from physicians but also from social welfare students and workers. Witness, for example, the statistics in the "Weekly Report of the Department of Health of the City of Los Angeles," of date of September 2, 1944, as given in a summary of communicable diseases in Los Angeles for the fiscal years 1942-1943 and 1943-1944. For the ten leading communicable disease causes of death in that city, tuberculosis was at the top of the list for both years; with 822 deaths in 1942-1943, and 795 deaths in 1943-1944.

Readers who have not looked over the articles

presented at this year's annual meeting of the California Tuberculosis and Health Association, may wish to take the time to scan them.

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California Physicians Have Been Leaders in the Work.—As regards the incidence of tuberculosis, members of the medical profession may take pride in the educational work that has been carried on in California. The more so, since both the tuberculosis associations in the State (the seventh anti-tuberculosis organization to be organized in the United States was the Southern California Society for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis) and the California Tuberculosis Commission which brought in its report to the Legislature in 1914, were in good part the brain children of physicians; going through their developmental days, largely under the administrative supervision of physicians.

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Annual Christmas Seal Sale Exceeds One Million Dollars in California.—Doctors of Medicine who wish to note what their respective local groups have done in providing work funds through the Christmas Seal sales, will find such a summary on page 109 of the August issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. It is heartening to know that, with the passing years, an increasing number of citizens take real interest in the continued efforts to eradicate tuberculosis; as witness the fact that more than one million dollars, through purchase of the Christmas Seals is now being annually collected in California. This is a good sign, since the monies, so raised, lay the foundation for even better results in the days ahead.

A LAPSE OF MEMORY, OR WHAT?

Valuable Articles on "Public Relations."—In CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE for July, the opening article on page 10 was entitled, "Public Relations Survey of California." The article was the report presented at this year's annual session of the California Medical Association by Mr. John R. Little, who represented the firm of Foote, Cone and Belding, and dealt with the results of an investigation and study made for the C.M.A. in November, 1943. In CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, for May, on page 241, appeared an "Interpretative Report" of this recent survey of California public opinion.

For this investigation and report, the California Medical Association paid some eight thousand dollars. The detailed and factual data were submitted to the C.M.A. in a 232 page report, copies of which were sent to several officers of the American Medical Association in Chicago.

Concerning this recent survey of California public opinion, it may be said that the facts and conclusions drawn therefrom have had a powerful influence in creating among physicians of the State a better understanding of new problems in medical trends; which must be satisfactorily